WASHINGTON.

The Compromise and the Presidence.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribane.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 2, 1852.

The Fugitive Slave Law is in the way of

electing a Whig President. People talk about the "Compromise measures" and so confuse men's minds about a thing which in itself is very simple and plain. Five acts were brought under this head and passed, to wit: 1st. An act for the admission of California, 2d. An act establishing Territorial Governments for our acquistions from Mexico. 3d. An act for the settlement of the Texas Boundary. 4th. An act abolishing the Slave Trade in the District of Columbia. 5th. An act for returning Fugitive

Two of these acts are not open to legislative action. We cannot turn California out of the Union, and we cannot legislate ten millions of money out of the breeches pocket of Texas into our own. In the first place she could'nt pay it if she would, and in the second, she would'nt if she could.

A third act is one for establishing Territorial Governments for New-Mexico and Utah. This was passed without the "Proviso," and was really the only act upon which any great controversy was waged. In this the South had her own way. It is a most suggestive and provoking subject for comment, but we withstand the temptation and remain silent. The question in re gard to it has been dropped for two reasons. first, because the Fugitive Slave law so excited the resentment of the North, that it quite forgot the "Proviso" for the period immediately following the passage of the measures; and, secondbecause the conviction has grown general that Slavery will not go into New-Mexico and Utah-Thus acquiescence in this act prevails even in those quarters—here she sourcest determination to uphold and adhere to the "Proviso" existed.

A fourth act is the one abolishing the Slave trade in the District, for which nobody now cares, and nobody ever did care. It is a small act upon a small subject, answering a very small purpose.

And thus it is that the Fugitive Slave Law, the fifth and last of the series, and that alone, really survives, and has an active existence of all the much bruited "Compromise Measures." Gov. Davis, in his late speech in the Senate, demonstr ted this fact at length in a most conclusive manner. Hence it is, we make the declaration that this law is the only thing in the way of electing a Whig President.

Why it is so, is plain enough, as we will show. The Southern Whigs, ever since the passage of the Compromise measures, have been fighting their battles on that platform. Their newspapers, members of the State Legislatures, members of Congress, stump speakers in general, have all planted themselves upon these measures. They have given them their out and out support, through thick and thin. They have sustained them as the leading measures of a Whig Administration, and by them they have elected to stand or fall.

Here arises the difficulty. The Compromise measures, as we have seen, being resolved into the Fugitive Slave Law, and the Whig party of the Southern States having planted itself thereon, (and not having yet recovered from the heats of the recent contest on the Slavery ques tion.) it deems itself under the necessity of fight ing the Presidential battle on the same issue and imagines that no candidate will serve the purpose of uniting and carrying the party, unless he make protestation in advance that he is a "Compromise" man; which means, in other words, that he is a firm supporter of the exist-

ing Fugitive Slave Law. Now so long as the Southern Whigs hold on to this conviction, just so long there can be no union of Northern and Southern Whigs on a Presidential candidate; and of course, considering the political complexion of the House, there can be no election of a Whig President. Aud thus it comes that the Fugitive Slave Law stands in the way of that result.

It is well known that the Northern Whigs, as well as all parties at the North, entertain a great repugnance to the provisions of the Fugitive Slave Law. Any law for returning runaway negroes would be distasteful enough, but the existing law is especially and justly odious. For this reason, no Whig Presidential candidate could hope to carry a single Northern State, if he were to run as a special advocate and sup porter of that law : in a word, and softly speaking, if he were to run as a "Compromise" can-

But there is no reasonable doubt of the ability of Gen. Scorr to carry every Northern State that went for Gen. TAYLOR, with the addition of Ohio into the bargain, if he were run without reference to this issue. Such is the conviction of the best informed men from all those States All that is wanted to insure a moral certainty of his election, therefore, is the support of the Southern Whig States.

And so it becomes a question solely for Southern Whigs to decide whether or not we shall have a Whig President at the next election. If they insist upon incorporating such a new and ridiculous test into the code of the Whig party as (not adherence to the Constitution, not adherence to a proper Fugitive Slave law even.) the support of a certain specific, existing, defective, repulsive law, then it is inevitable that the Whig party is sundered and defeated. And what is worse than that, it is equally inevitable that a great sectional party will trise upon its ruins. And so, on the contrary, if the Whig party North and South will consent to discard all such adiculous, temporary issues as the one alluded to, and will rally to the support of Gen. Scott as they did to the support of Gen. TAYLOR, standing upon their ancient and well-known doctrines and the well-established character of their candidate, then will they preserve the unity and the nationality of the party; and if they cannot, by reason of the composition of Congress, shape the policy of the country on domestic questions, they will at least hold the reins as to the foreign policy of the Government, and act as a certain check to all vicious legislation, and preserve a pure administration of our national affairs.

This state of the case is no less novel than it is true. Here is the fate of a great party, and by consequence, perhaps the fate of a nation, hanging upon the provisions of law, run through Congress as one might leap a horse over a ditch, at a single bound, without thought and without examination. The Fugitive Slave law was never discussed and never made a matter of any special account in all the discussions of the time. It was not a principal or a conspicuous flower even in that admired bouquet prepared by Messrs. FOOTE, CLAY & Co. for presentation to the country; whose soportic odors were to com. pose all the nervous ails of the nation. It was simply a green sprig tucked in behind to give variety and relief to its general appearance. It was more ly a little thread thrown into the shopkeeper's bundle to make up the stuffs therein contained And as quack doctors and patent medicine venders in forming their villainous compounds, put !

in a little of this and a little of that herb, sweet flag, yellow dock, dandelion, thistie flower, and other harmless ingredients, to give an imposing air of potency to the all-healing sassafras, or other staple of their medicine; so in this case was the Fugitive Slave law sprinkled into the Compromise mess; of which the whole body and soul was the law establishing the Territorial Governments without the Wilmot Proviso. The Fugitive law received absolutely no consideration and no examination, and was not debated or hardly alluded to in the final passage of the series of measures at last borne on a rushing torrent through Congress.

Pascal somewhere remarks that if Cleopatra's nose had been shorter, the fate of the world might have been changed. Suould it so turn out that this law, in consequence of a few ever. looked, wicked provisions, maliciously, and almost stealthily inserted, should be the cause of the un toward results we have already hinted atit would only be another added to the catalogue of the instances in which small and unsuspected causes have produced great results in the world's history, from the fall of Troy downward.

But we have faith to believe that the Whigs of the South will, in good time, see and acknowledge the impossibility that the Whig party can run a Presidential candidate, or the narrow and mean issue of adherence to the letter of the Fugitive Slave law; and cease to intimate that such a course is essential to success in the South. We shall be slow to believe that any Gordian knot attaches the Whig party to any such chariet as this. But if it be so, we are ready for the sword of any political Alexander which shall cut it.

TENNESSEE-Congressional Apportionent.-The following is the Apportionment of this Members of Congress henceforth which has been reported to the House by the (Whig) majority of the proper Committee, and will probably be enacted:

		1844.	184		1850.
	Vot	e for	Camp+	Trous-	Popul-
Dist.				dale.	
1.	.Carter 7	39 177	777	202	6296
177.5	Cacke 8	44 187	980	245	8300
	Granger 9	98 548	1110	675	12370
	Greene 10	31 1701	1144	1684	17824
	Hawkins 11	73 1388.	1236	1313	13370
	Jefferson15		1606	346	13204
	Johnson 3	70 79.	. 495	84	3706
	Sullivan 3	50 1533	383	. 1459	11742
	Washingt'n 8	81 1225	969	1151	13861
ll l	Total 7,9	49 7,085	. 8,700	7,159 10	0,672
**				207	

Campbell., 337 318., 495 Claiborne. 578 Fentress... 60 857... 655 456... 184 493... 4454 Hancock .. (New Co.). Knox . . . 2015 507 2223 623 18775 Marion . . . 503 381 517 382 6314 Marion... 503 381.. 517 382.. 6314 Overton... 336 1145.. 461 1258.. 754..12185 Roane 822 Scott (New Co.) .. Total...5,349 4,724.6,016 5,183.71,668

III., Bledsoe... 529, 259... 559 298... 5959 Hamilton., 644 624., 885 381., 517 382., 6314 620., 154 554., 4879 Marion... 503 Meigs.... 120 382.. 6314 Monroe ... 859 1086.. 918 947.. 10874 McMinn .. 873 1061.. 885 1023.. 13906 Polk..... 260 488.. 305 581.. 6338 Rhea 232 368.. 329 331.. 4415 Rhea Total...4,592 5,815.5,222 5,761.75,019 IV..Coffee 280 1000...307 De Kulb... 488 491...651 488 491.. 651 626.. 8016

Grundy ... (New Co) ... Jackson...1211 807..1295 900..15673 Macon... (New Co.). 25 225. 6948 Smith... 2328 788, 2409, 779, 18412 Van Bu en 116 190, 119 208, 2674 Warren ... 335 1190.. 408 White 857 468..1016 Total...5,615 4,934.6,230 5,561.84,470 .Cannon... 318 761.. 430 841.. 8983 Rutherford 1730 1500...1539 1296...29112

Sumner ... 881 2017 ... 772 1856 ... 22717 Williams't 1986 850 1710 727 27201 Wilson ... 2607 1042 ... 2327 1000 ... 27414 Total ... 7,522 6,179, 6,778 5,716 115,456

VI Bedford 1455 1526 1438 1413 21512 Franklin 358 1123 441 1228 13768 Lincoln 658 2494 658 2338 23492 Marshall .. 635 1398. 761 1302 15616 Total...4,398 8,529, 4,793 8,111 103,008

VII. Beaton... 202 481.. 312 490.. 6315 Decatur... (New Co.).. 372 314..60003 275 1051., 9397 255 1034... Hickman. Humphreys 305 523.. 274 Lawrence 489 547.. 611 Lewis...(New Co.). 143 189. 4438 McNairy...773 741 049 McNairy 773 741 949 967 21864 Perry 744 513 424 286 5822 Wayne 665 446 730 484 8170

Total...5,329 6,404. 5,977 7,154 167,988 VIII. Davidson . 2266 1683 . . 2330 1842 . . 38881 Dickson... 339 706.. 329 708.. 8404 Montgom'y1271 1029..1132 921..21045 Robertson 1193 871 1169 889 16145 Stewart. 519 704 489 697 9719

Total...5,588 4,993. 5,449 5,057. 94,194 1X. Carroll. 1356 524 1468 688 15967 Dyer. 356 272 483 383 6361 Gibson, 1320 611 1591 1016, 19548 Henderson 1205 492 1089 497, 13164 Henderson 1209 492 1089 497 13164 Henry. 835 1312 812 1225 18233 Lauderdale 286 211 315 296 5169 Obien. 282 536 412 674 7633

Tipton... 360 502.. 320 531.. 8887 Weakley.. 560 1084.. 714 1317..14608 Total... 6,564 5,544. 7,204 6,627 109,570 X.. Hardeman 689 1077., 632 965., 17456 Haywood. 756 668 819 762 17259 Fayette 1205 1151 1066 1047 26719 Madison .. 1357 768 .. 1383 709 .. 21470 Shelby ... 1625 1352 .. 1563 1490 .. 31157

Total...5,632 5,016, 5,463 4,973 114,061 Grand Totals 69,630 59,917 63,333 61,673 1.003625 -Hitherto the State has been so Districted (designedly) that the Whigs had next to no chance, electing but four of the eleven Members last year, for instance, though they carried the Governor and Legislature by a handsome majority. They seem resolved to have the boot on the other leg hereafter.

Mr. Levy, the Conspirator.

The following is a copy, verbatim et spellatim, of the letter for which Mr. Jones P. Levy has been arrested, on charge of violating the law of 1799.

Washington, Nov. 7, 1851.

Washington, Nov. 7, 1851.

Sir: I have addressed your Excellency several letters since my arrival in the U.S., from your city, but sorry to say not had the pleasure of a reply to any of them. The main object of this letter is to warn you of the pending danger of your Government and loss of your territory.

The principal object of my visit to this capital is to defeat the nefarious plans of Jose de Garay and his companions in the Tehuantepse matter. They are now in that city with the Honorable Daniel Webter, concocting plans to make a political question of Tehuantepse for the Whigs, which our party the Democrats will not allow.

It is Mr. Webster's object to get you to resind the article in the treaty for the protection of the line of your Frenzier take my advise as you value the interests of your country never do it. It is worth more than all the gold mines of clusterias to you.

I have published many articles in this country in

immes of California to you.

published many articles in this country in

of the character of your government and

The inclosed article has been of much seryou and will have its due influence in their com.ng Congress.
It was Mr. Webster's intention to press the Te-

It was air Websier's intention to press the Te-huantepec matter this next Congress, but will now be careful how he acts before be hears from Mr. Letcher about the Frontier line. I hope ere you re-ceive this that your Excellency has signed my grant that was left in the Honble Secretary hands to be made out according to the laws passed by Congress for your approval, and signature as I am anxiously anality for it to put my rout in operation and say for your approval, and signature as I am anxiously awaiting for it to put my rout in operation and save your country from Ruin and loss. My Steamers are all ready four oppreration and I have sufficient funds in Mexico to complete my rout in a short time so soon as I get your signature to the acts of Congress to earry out my Grant to become a law. I sincerely hope your Exc'lly will see the urgent necessity to despatch this important object which the intress and well fare of Mexico depens on my line of commun-cation will support your administration more than all the armys that can be put in the field against the Revolutionists and enable you to crown your self with laurels.

Revolutionists and enable you to crown your senwith laurels.

I send this under cover and through the hands of
your Hon. Minister residing in this city and sincerely hope it may reach your Excellence hands in
time to be of service to you. Trusting to have an
early reply from Your Excellency in the City of
New-York, where I leave for in a few days.

Wishing your Excily health long life and Prosperity. I have the hortor to sign myself your sincere
friend and obedient servant, Jonas P. Levy.

To His Excellency St. Dn Mariano Arista President of the U. States of the Republic of Mexico.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

DREAM-LIFE: A FABLE OF THE SEASONS. By Is. MARVEL 12mo pp. 235. Charles Scriener.

The seasons of human life afford the keynote to this delightful, harmonious burst of soul. music. In the same pensive, tender, and lyrical strain, as the "Reveries of a Bachelor," this volume discourses sweetly and sadly on the many-colored phases of existence, gathers pathetic reminiscences from the experience of all ages, and blends them into a soft flowing narrative whose melody reminds one of the sound of distant streams. From most writers, two successive volumes of this character would be a superfluity. They would tempt us to eat too much honey, which is not wise. But Ik. Marvel's sentiment does not often run into sentimentality; his pathos is too genuine to repel the reader; he touches the feelings, without cloying the imagination; and his most tender effusions are sustained by such truthful perceptions of reality that they never take us out of the sphere of nature and every-day experience. Still, we hope this favorite author will change his hand before another volume, and not exhaust a vein of composition, which, however delicious at first, can scarcely fail to pall upon the sense by frequent repetition.

We have alluded to Ik. Marvel's tendency to the meditative and pathetic; but it would be wrong to class him in the category of merely sentimental writers; for his books abound in descriptive passages of the most dewy freshness, and are enlivened with touches of humor, whose delicacy is equaled only by their point. Here is a miniature spicture which will bear study, for its exquisite finish, no less than for its sweet naturalness of feeling.

The sparrow that is twittering on the edge of my The sparrow that is twittering on the edge of my balcony, is cailing up to me this moment, a world of memories that reach over half my lifetime, and a world of hope that stretches farther than any flight of spairows. The rose-tree which shades his mottled coat is full of buds and blossoms; and each bud and blossom is at token of promise, that has issues covering life, and reaching beyond death. The quiet sunshine beyond the flower and beyond the sparrow,—glistening upon the leaves, and playing in delicious waves of warmth over the recking carth, is lighting both heart and hone, and outkening into activity a waves of warmin over the recking carm, is lighting both heart and hope, and quickening into activity a thousand thoughts of what has been, and of what will be. The meadow stretching away under its golden food—waving with grain, and with the feathery blossems of the grass, and golden batter cups, and white, nodding dusies, comes to my eye like the lapse of fading childhood,—studded have and there with the bright blossoms of joy, crimsoned it over with the dust of beath and canneled with and there with the flush of health, and enameled with memories that performe the soul. The blue hills be-send, with deep blue, shadows gathered in their borcm, he before me like mountains of years, over which I shall climb through shadows to the slope of Age, and go down to the deeper shadows of Death.

The following description of the Dawn of Spring, deals in familiar images, and will perhaps strike no one by its originality. But it breathes the fresh life of nature with such inborn sympathy, that it has all the effect of gazing on the landscape with our own eyes:

on the landscape with our own eyes:

I love to trace the break of Spring step by step; I love even those long rain-storms that sap the toy fortresses of the langering Winter,—that melt the shows upon the hills, and swell the mountain-brooks.—that make the pools heave up their glassy cerements of ice, and hurry down the crashing fragments into the wastes of ceean.

I love the gentle thaws that you can trace, day by day, by the stained snow-banks, shrinking from the grants; and by the gentle drip of the cottage-caves. Hore to search out the sumy slopes by a southern will, where the reflected sim does double duty to the earth, and where the frail amenone, or the faint blush of the arbutus, in the midst of the bleak March atmosphere, will touch your heart, like a hope of Heaves, in a field of graves! Later come those soft, smoky days, when the patches of winter grain show green under the shelter of leafless woods, and the last snow-drifts, reduced to shrunken skeletons of ice. He upon the slope of northern hills, leaking away their life.

Then, the grass at your door grows into the color of the strought grain, and the buds upon the lilacs

ice. He upon the slope of northern hills, leaking away their life.

Then, the grass at your door grows into the color of the sprouting grain, and the buds upon the hilacs swell, and burst. The peaches bloom upon the wall, and the plumbs wear bodices of white. The sparkling eriole picks string for his hammock on the sycamore, and the sparrows twitter in pairs. The old eims throw down their dingy flowers, and color their spray with green; and the brooks, where you throw your worm or the minnow, float down whole fleets of the crimson blossoms of the maple. Finally, the caks step into the opening quadrille of Spring, with grayish tuffs of a modest verdure, which, by and and by, will be long and glossy leaves. The dog-wood pitches his broad, white tent, in the edge of the forest; the dandelions lie along the hillocks, like stars in a sky of green, and the wild cherry, like stars in a sky of green, and the wild cherry, growing in all the nedge-rows, without other culture than God's, lifts up to Him, thankfully, its tremulous white fearers. Amid all this, come the rich rains of Spring.

affections of a boy grow up with tears to water them, and the year blooms with flowers. But the clouds hover over an April sky, timidly—like shadows upon innocence. The showers come

clouds hover over an April sky, timidly—like shadows upon innocence. The showers come gently, and drop daintily to the earth,—with now and then a glimpse of sunshine to make the drops bright—like so many tears of joy.

The rain of Winter is cold, and it comes in bitter scuds that blind you; but the rain of April steals upon you coyly, half reluctantly,—yet lovingly—like the steps of a bride to the Altar.

It does not gather like the storm-clouds of Winter, grey and heavy along the horizon, and creep with subtle and insensible approaches (like age) to the very zenith; but there are a scorce of whitewinged swimmers affoat, that your eye has chased, as you lay fatigued with the delicious languor of an April sun—nor have you scarce noticed that a little bevy of those floating clouds had grouped to getner in a sombre company. But presently, you see across the flelde, the dark gray streaks stretching like lines of mists, from the green bosom of the valley, to that spot of sky where the company of cloues is lottering; and with an easy shifting of the helm, the fleet of swimmers come drifting over you, and drop their burden into the dancing pools, and make the flowers glisten, and the eaves drip with their crystal bounty.

The cattle linger still, cropping the new-come

The cattle inger still, cropping the new-come grass; and childhood laughs joyously at the warm rain.—or under the cottage roof, catches with eager ear, the patter of its fail.

We give another specimen of a different color, which we regard as no more than an average sample of the author's skill in character-draw-

A NEW-ENGLAND SQUIRE.

Frank has a grandfather living in the country, a good specimen of the old-fashioned New-England farmer. And—go where one will, the world over—I know of no race of men, who taken to-gether, porsess more integrity, more intelligence, and more of those elements of comfort, which go

and more of those elements of comfort, which go to make a home beloved, and the social basis firm, than the New-England farmers.

They are not brilliant, nor are they highly refined, they know nothing of arts, histronic or dramatic; they know only so much of older nations as their histories and newspapers teach them, in the fashionable world they hold no place—but in energy, in irdustry, in hardy virtue, in subtantial knowledge, and in manly independence, they make up a race, that is hard to be in fielded.

The French peasantry are, in all the essentials of

that is hard to be in fiched.

The French peasarry are, in all the essentials of intelligence, and sterling worth, infants, compared with them: and the farmers of England are either the merest jockeys in grain, with few ideas beyond their sacks, samples, and market days,—or, with added cultivation, they lose their independence in a subserviency to some neighbor patron of rank; and superior intelligence teaches them no lesson so quickly, as that their brethren of the glebe are unequal to them, and are to be left to their cattle and the good.

the good.

There are English farmers indeed, who are men There are English farmers intered, who are men in carriest, who read the papers, and who keep the current of the year's intelligence, but such men are the enceptions. In New-England, with the school upon every third hill-side, and the self-regulating, and the self-regulating church to watch every valley with weekre-acting church to watch every valley with wee day quiet, and to wake every valley with Sabbath toure, the men become, as a class bold, intelligent, and hunest actors, who would make sgain, as they have made before a terrible army of defense; and who would find reasons for their actions, as attong as their armies.

Prank's grandfather has silver hair, but is still haie, erect, and strong. His dreas is homely, but neat. Being a thorough-going Protectionist, he has no fancy for the gew-gaws of foreign importation, and makes it a point to appear always in the village church and on all great occasions, in a sober suit of homespun. He has no pride of appearance, and he needs home. He is known as a Squire, throughout the township, and no important measure can pass the board of select-men without the Squire's approval—and this, from no blind subserviency to his opinion, because his farm is large, and he is reckoned "fore-handed." but because there is a confidence in his judgment.

his judgment.

The is jealous of none of the prerogatives of the country parson, or of the school-master, or of the rillage doctor, and although the latter is a testy politician of the opposite party, it does not at all impair the Squire's faith in his calome!—he suffers

politician of the opposite part of the proposite part in pair the Squire's faith in his calomel;—he suffers all his Radicalism, with the same equanimity that he suffers his rhubarb.

The day-laborers of the neighborhood, and the small farmers consider the Squire's note of hand for their savings, better than the best bonds of city origin; and they seek his advice is all matters of litigation. He is a Justice of the Peace, as the title of Squire in a New-England village implies, and many are the country courts that you peep upon, with Frank, from the door of the great dining-room. The defendant always seems to you, in these important cases.—especially if his beard is rather long,—an extraordinary ruffian; to whom Jack Sheppard would have been a comparatively innocent boy. You watch curiously the old gentleman, sitting in his big arm chair, with his speciacles in their silver.

You watch curiously the old gentleman, sitting in his big arm chair, with his spectacles in their siver case at his eibow, and his snuff box in hand, listening attentively to some grierous complaint; you see him ponder deeply—with a pinch of snuff to aid his judgment—and you listen with intense admiration, as he gives a loud, preparatory "Ahem," and clears away the intricactes of the case with a sweep of that away the intractical sense, which distinguishes the New-strong practical sense, which distinguishes the New-Ergland farmer,—getting at the very hinge of the matter, without any consciousness of his own pre-cision, and satisfying the defendant by the clearness of his talk, as much as by the leniency of his judg-

of his talk, as match as by the leniency of his judgment.

His lands lie along those swelling hills which in southern New Eegland, carry the chain of the White and Green Mountains, in gentle undulations, to the borders of the sea. He farms some fifteen hundred acres,—"suitably divided," as the old school agriculturists say, into "wood-land, pasture, and tillage." The farm-house, a large irregularly built mansion of wood, stands upon a shelf of the hills looking southward, and is shaded by century-old oaks. The barns and out buildings are grouped in a brown phalanx, a little to the northward of the dwelling. Between them a high timber gate opers upon the scattered pasture lands of the hills opposite to this, and across the farm-yard, which is the lounging place of scores of red-recked turkeythend of matronly hens, clucking to their callow brood, another gate of similar pre ensions opens upon the wide meadow land, which rolls with a heavy "ground swell," along the valley of a mountain river. A veteran cak stands sentinel, at the brown meadow gate, its trunk all scarred with the ruthless cuts of new-ground axes, and the limbs garnished in Summer time, with the crooked snathes of murderous-looking scythes.

The high-road passes a stone's throw away, but there is intle "travel" to be seen; and every chance passer will insvitably come under the range of the stacken windows, and be studied carefully by the eyes of the stout dairy maid:—to say nothing of the stalwart Indian cook.

This last, you cannot but admire as a type of that

cyes of the stout dairy maid:—to say nothing of the stalwart Indian cook.

This last, you cannot but admire as a type of that noble old race, among whom your boying fancy has woven so many stories of romance. You wonder how she must regard the white interlopers upon her own soil: and you think that she tolerates the Squire's farming privileges with more modesty than you would suppose. You learn, however, that she pays very little regard to white rights,—when they conflicts with her own; and further learn, to your deep regret, that your Primees of the old tribe, is sady addicted to cider drinking; and having heard her once or twice, with a very indistinct "Goo-er right Sq-quare," upon her lips—your dreams about her grow very tame.

her grow very tame.

The Squre, like all very sensible men, has his hobbies, and peculiarities. He has a great contempt, for instance, for all paper money, and imagines banks to be corporative societies, skilfully contrived for the legal plunder of the community. He keeps a supply of silver and gold by him in the foot of an old stocking, and seems to have great condense in the value of Spanish milled dollars. He has no kind of patience with the new destrines of farming. Liebly, and all the rest, he sets down as mere theorists, and patience with the new octifies of larining Liceous, and all the rest, he sets down as mere theorists, and has far more respect for the contents of his barnyard, then for all the guano deposits in the world. Scientific farming, and gentleman farming, may do very well, he says, to keep file young fellows from the city out of mischief; but as for real, effective meragement, there's nothing like the old stock of many who are hardnot until her were ten, and who men, who ran bareloot until they were ten, and who count the hard Winters by their frozen toes.' And he is ford of quoting in this connection.—the early quotation by the by, that the old gentleman ever makes—that couplet of Poor-Richard.

He that by the plow would thrive, Himself must enter hold or drive.

The Squire has been in his day, connected more or less inumately with Torinike enterprise, which the Railroads of the day have thrown sadly into the hackground; and he reflects often in a melancholy way, upon the good old times when a man could travel in his own carriage quietly across the country, without being frightened with the clatter of an engine,—and when Tunnpike stock paid wholesome vearly dividends of six per cent.

But this volume cannot be well appreciated

But this volume cannot be well appreciated with only here and there a taste of its quality. Its jewels are all strung on the thread of a regular narrative-a story of love, joy, grief and immortal hope-and lose much of their brightness by removal from the place in which they have been so defty arranged.

THE ECLECTIC DISPENSATORY," by JOHN KING, M.D., and ROBERT S. NEWTON, M. (Sco pp. 708. Cincienati : H. W. Derby & Co.) This a portant medical work is issued under the auspices of the National Eclectic Medical Convention. It contains the systematic and common names of the various medicinal articles, their natural and artificial botanical classifications, and an account of the medicinal influences of each agent. The second part of the work is devoted to Pharmacy, describing the preparations which successful ea perience has entitled to the rank of officinal. Although free use has been made of the best authorities n writing this work, it may justly claim the character of an original production, and presents much information not to be found in similar publications.

"A PRACTICAL SYSTEM OF BOOK-KEEPING," by IRA MAYHEW. This is a plain, brief treatise, by the late able Superintendent of Public Instruction in Michigan, whose labors in another de partment of education have given him an eminent position among the friends of popular improvement in this country. It is not a mere compilation, but presents several original features of great value. By its perfect clearness of expression, its admirable arrangement, and the multiplicity of examples by which its theoretic principles are illustrated, it is well adapted to common use. No work on the subject that we have seen can be more safely recommended to farmers and mechanics, as exactly suited to their wants. (Cady & Burgess.)

"Godey's LADY's Book," Feb., has one of Tuckerman's excellent biographical papers, devoted to the career of Leopardi, one of the greatest scholars and men of genius, modern Italy has produced. An article on "American Female Authorship," by Mrs. Alice B. Neal, gives a good deal of sound advice to young literary aspirants, but, we fear, the laber is thrown away. (H. Long & Bro.)

OUR STATE PRISONS.

At last winter's session of the Legislature Messrs. George Underwood, George E. Baker, John H. Wooster, Alexander H. Graham and Charles C. Severance, of the Assembly, were appointed a Committee to investigate the fiscal affairs, general management and discipline of the different State Prisons. Their report has been made, and is now before us in a thick pamphlet of 256 pages; it is not calculated to render the people content with the present state of the institutions in question, or with the conduct of the officers who administer and supervise them. The Committee make the following statements :

It does not appear that the Inspectors either fulfill the expectations of the framers of the Constitution that, created them, or comply with the requisitions of the statutes that govern them. A smail portion only of their time is spent at the prisons, wheretion only of their time is spent at the prisons, whereas the most constant attention of one of them at each of the prisons, is required for the interest of the State and the welfare of the prisoner. At present there is room to believe, that the saying his some truth in it, that "the contractors rule the prisons." The contractors are generally men of the prisons is changed (as will appear) once in two years, the contractor may be said to be a perminent efficer, and the only perminent of the reachest and the only perminent officer, and the only permanent officer connected with the prison. Their contracts run for five years, and are generally renewed from time to time, so that "orce a contractor always a contractor," has pecome

the rule. Under these excumstances it will be seen that the Inspector is an effect of the first importance, and that his curies must, of Becessity, if the State is properly served, be ardurus and constant. From the fact that almost any abuse will be sooner tolerated than a Ceficiency in the receipts of the prison, the finances is almost the only subject that engages his attention, if we except the appointment of officers. Instead of suising the prisons hurriedly once a month, he should spend weeks at a time in the prison walls, gain the confidence of the convicts, see that abuses are not practiced or suffered to go unredressed, and see that the health and improvement of the convicts are not sacrificed to the interests of the contractor, or the case and passions of the subordinate officers. We are convinced that this is the only line of duty that can be pursued with success, and that it has, as yet, been but imperfectly performed.

One of the Inspectors [Mr. Angell] was examined before the Committee, and stated that during the year he had twice visited the prisons which were not under his peculiar charge; once he had been excused from meeting by his associates, and had visited his own prison once a month, for a few days at a time.

Any one in the least acquainted with prison mai-

Any one in the least acquainted with prison maters, must be aware that it is impossible for an Inspector to do his duty to the State at large, or to the spector to do his duty to the State at large, or to the prisoners, by such a mode of discharging it. A striking illustration of this truth is she wa in one of his answers to the inquiries of the Committee. Sections 44 and 45 of the act of 184s direct the erection in each prison of separate cells for the purposes of punishment: and when this Inspector was asked by us if such cells had been erected in the prison under his particular charge, he answered, "I am not able to say."

This Inspector was not able to tell of the difficul-

This inspector was not able to tell of the difficulties or disorders at his prison which others described, and for a very good reason. He had never taught the prisoners that they had in him a protector against the exactions of contractors and the abuses of the officers—never taught the contractors that there was any one to carb or regulate their cupality, or the officers that they had a jealous master, carefully guarding against their oppression or tyranny. And while other persons were able to give us accounts of various violations of the law in his prison, he seemed to be utterly unconvictors of their existence.

The interest of the contractors is in direct condict with that of the State and the welfare of the prisoners. The contract system, though it is beneficial in regard to the fisances, is in every other respect injurious, and its operation must be watched with the utmost vigilance, to prevent very disastrous consequences. Their interest is to get as much labor out of the convicts as possible, and at as low a price as possible, and to get from the officers as many gratuitous privileges as they can. And it appears that the contractors are allowed to fix the amount of work which each convict shall perform; that complaints are made by the prisoners that they are overworked, sometimes to an injurious extent, that these complaints have been sometimes attended to by the suboroinate officers, but by the laspecture never! It also appears, in two cases, one at Auburn and one as Sing Sing, that contractors have been silowed to have the labor at less than the contractors exce and in one of the cases, under circumstances which create some distrust as to the integrity of some of the offihave the labor at less than the contract price, and in one of the cases, under circumstances which create some distrust as to the integrity of some of the odi-cers. It also appears that the contractors are allow-ed to have many of what are called half-pay mea, under the pretense of their being disabled. In Sing Sing that has been carried so far that one-twellth of the mea let to contractors are half-pay mea. At Auburn it is yet worse, for out of 636 let to contrac-tors 184 respectively at half-pay, 15 at 1 no. 3 at 1. 6 Auburn it is yet worse, nor out of societies Causas-tors IS are charged at half-pay, 15 at 1 pay, 3 at 1, 6 given as invalids for whom no charge is made, and 11 at a reduction of 6 cents from 46, the contract price, or more than one third of the whole number given to the contractors at priceviess than they have agreed to give for those

for them.

Six or seven years ago, as we are informed, this contrivance was detected at Sing-Sing, and the convicts who were put down as half pay men, on the groutd of being invailes, and had been rated as such for months, were surprised at it, they doing full work, and being rated as invalids merely for the purpose of benefitting the contractors, but without conferring upon them any exemption from labor.

upon them any exemption from labor. Hence probably it is that there is so great a disparity between the number of half pay men at Auburn and Sing-Sing at the present time. First a work of time to get the number very large. At Sing-Sing it has been the work of six or seven years only. How leng it has been going on at Auburn we do not know.

This must be the explanation of this matter, or the Auburn prison must be very unhealthy as compared with Sing Sing; for at Auburn, out of 636 men let to contractors, 210 are rated as invahils; while at Sing Sing, out of 502 on contract, 47 only are so rated. In Sing Sing in 1814 these were 905 prisoners, and the monthly cost of support was \$2,388 17, or \$2.50 at month for each prisoner. In 1850 the number of prisoners was 785, and the monthly cost of support was \$2,064 54, or \$3.90 a month for each prisoner. Are the Inspectors aware of this, or can they give any good reason for this increase of near 60 per cent in the cost of supporting the prisoners.

To carry the inquiry a stop further, to show the

To carry the inquiry a step farther, to show the ir sufficiency of such an inspection, the Committee call attention to the total expenditures of that prison for those years.

Or \$68 71 per year for each prisoner.

In 1850 the number of prisoners was 765. The ex-

Total \$93,806 61
Or \$123 93 per year for each prizoner; or an increase of about 80 per cent.
By descending to particulars, it will be seen in seme measure how this extraordinary increase has

At the rate at which the Prison was supported in 1844, he sum total of its expenser in 1850 ought to have been \$52,503 15, whereas it was \$95,808 61; and then the draft upon the State Treasury which was made in 1850, for \$41,587 50, might have been dispensed with. The Committee condemn the frequent changes

of officers, and their appointments on political grounds; the salaries of keepers (\$1 37) daily) are pronounced too small. At Sing Sing they found an officer not provided by law, called the architect, receiving a salary of \$2,000 The Committee recommend that the law of May 9, 1846, providing for an annual inspection of the Prisons by members of the Prison Association. under the direction of the Chancellor, or a judge of the Supreme Court, or a Circuit judge, be revived. This law has not been repealed but has been rendered nugatory by the Inspectors.

The Committee testify to a general improve. ment in the discipline of the various prisons within the past five years, by rendering it humaner, and a corresponding improvement in the character and conduct of the convicts. Better pay and more attentive and competent men are recommended to be appointed for the important offices of chaplains, physicians and teachers .-As it is, they are sometimes filled by proper persons, but not uniformly. They condemn the policy of restricting mechanical labor in the prisons. They are also earnestly in favor of giving to the convict some suitable proportion of what is earned by his labor, to start with after he leaves the prison. He should be allowed moreover, to earn money by over work after his legal task is accomplished. Some means should also be taken by the State to enable him to find employment on leaving.

The humane intentions of the Legislature with regard to the mental culture of convicts have not been fully carried out. At the time allotted for them to read it is dark, and nothing has been done to provide them with lights. The libraries for their use are poor, being made up in a great measure of abstruse treatises of the-

On the whole, however, since 1830 the total number of convicts in the State Prisons has increased but 36, notwithstanding the great increase of the population. In 1831 there were 1,626 convicts at Auburn and Sing-Sing; now. at Auburn, Sing-Sing and Clinton there are only

The report gives a variety of interesting and valuable tables to show the effect of long or short sentences upon the prisoners and the amount of crime committed. They certainly present very strong reasons for believing that long sentences are unadvisable in every point of view. Taking the statistics of crime for the past four years in the whole State, it appears that in these districts where long sentences have been most inflicted, crimes most abound. The follow-

ing table is interesting, as showing the proportion of convices to the entire population in the

STATE New-York 10 1,668
Massechusette 1 to 2,668
Massechusette 1 to 2,372
Cosnecicut 1 to 1 702
Maine 1 to 2,374
New Hampshire 1 in 4,376
Virgini 6.8 4 4.6.22 6.4.15 7.7.2 5.0.0 4.0.3 3.7.2 2.8.25

erime
Having disposed of the effect of long sentences in
afforcing to the community protection against crime,
we are next to require into their effect on the crimi-

The object of an enlightened criminal code is to

nai himselt.

The object of an enlightened criminal cole is to provise security for the State, reformation of the offender and provision for his welfare after the term of imprisonment shall have expired.

The reformation of the offender can only be effected by the embattenment and culture of his religious, moral and interlectual faculties, and by preserving and improving his physical powers.

An inspection of State Prisons will satisfy any one that these indications are not fulfilled by long sentences. Most men who have been confined for long terms are distinguished by a stupor of both the moral and intellectual faculties; they beet me mere machines; long disused to the exercise of their own volitions, and subjected to an unvarying routine of occupations and of objects, the noblest powers of their natures fall into decay, while the mere instinctive and animal faculties are those which remain in exercise. Even hope dies which themation is then out of the question, and the power of providing for their own livelihood is forever destroyed. Those who are most familiar with the history of criminals, know that pecuniary necessities are the chief springs of crime. Even those who ever the path of estimability through the portals of the grog shop, the brothel or the gambling koose, are constrained to accept this course, because those agencies have deprived them of all other means of providing for their wants.

The record acquisities of the had varietation of viding for their wants

The report complains of the bad ventilation of the prisons; the abolition of the cat as a mode of punishment is thought to have worked well, but the punishment of the shower-bath and that callled the yoke, which have been substituted for it, are evidently liable to be grossly abused. These inflictions are thus described in a letter to the Committee from Dr. Fosgate, late Physician of the Auburn Prison :

The form of the machine is that of the common stocks with a reservoir of water above it, having a head of fifty-four isches, measuring from the surface of the water to the perforated plate at the end of the discharging tube. The offender, being stripped of his clothing, is placed in a sitting posture in the stocks, with his feet and hands securely fastened, and his head contained in a sort of hopper, the bottom of which encincies his neck so closely that the water will not run off as fast as it can be let on, the water being under the control of the keeper by means of a cord atta hed to a valve in the bottom of the reservoir. From the perforated plate the water falls about eighteen inches, when it strikes the head of the convict immovably fixed, thence passing over the whole surface of the blow upon the head is nearly equal to a column of water revently-two inches in hight. This force is somewhat reduced by the intervention of the perforated plate, a late modification in the instrument.

To the mechanic who calculates the influence of more matter upon matter, the power of this column of water must possers considerable imperiance. But to the physiologiat, who can alone judge with any degree of correctness of the influence of a stream, generally at 52 degrees Fabrecher, falling upon the head and thence covering the whole body, the suffering manced, and conget incorred, must appear momentums in the extreme.

The kind of punishment next in frequency inflicted in this prison is yeking. The yold is formed of a flat her of iron four or five inches wide, and from five to six feet in length, with a movable steple in the center to encicle the neck, and a smail one at each end to surround the wires. All there steples are so arranged, that by turning screws on their protruding ends on the back of the iron bar, they can be tightened to acy degree deemed expedient. The weight of the inches yoke is thirty-four pounds avolrdupois, and some of them I believe weigh forty. The form of the machine is that of the common stocks with a reservoir of water above it, having a

avoirdupous, and some of them I believe weigh forty.

The principal objection to this punishment is, that
the yoke bears too neavily on the cervical vertebra.
Most persons are aware of the unpleasant, and in
fact insupportable sensation produced even by the
weight of the unbuttoned coat and vest pressing
upon the back or the neck. Under the weight of
this instrument, the convict cannot retain the erect
posture even for a few minutes contentively, but is
forced to bend forward in his continual widhings,
which brings the entire weight of the bar upon the?
lower cervical vertebra. The areas are generally by descending to particulars, it will be seen in some measure how this extraordinary increase agrees in 1844. State of the seen seed of this institute in the convict cannot retain the erect posture even for a few minutes consecutively, but is forced to bend forward in his continual withings.

For pay of guards

Increase. \$2,438.75

Thus while the number of prisoners has diminished some 18 per cent. the expense of guarding them has increased some 25 per cent. And in the same manner, the total expenses

Of Provisions have increased. \$7,532.74

Of Haspital Stores is creased. \$29.33

Of Clothing and Bedding. \$85.51

At the rate at which the Prison was supported in 1854, he sum total of its expenses in 1850 ought to

These were at Auburn, none such appearing to have taken place at Clinton or Sing Sing. Indeed it is expressly stated that Auburn Prison is managed with much greater severity than either of the others. The arrangements at that Prison, for the care of health, are by no means what they should be. Dr. Fosgate testifies to the effect of long imprisonment to produce alienation and weakness of mind; onanism appears to be quite generally practiced among the convicts.

It seems then that these important institutions are not only imperfectly and badly arranged for, their purpose, but neglected by those who should attend to them, and badly managed; and that the State is plundered of a good deal of money by contractors and their accomplices. The re. port does not express any decided opinion as to the continuance of Clinton Prison. The Female Department at Sing Sing is spoken of in high terms; while nearly one seventh of the male cenvicts come back a second time, only onetwelfth of the females do so. The following are the concluding propositions of the Committee:

1. That a great majority of the convicts are susceptible of being influenced by the same good motives and impulses, which influence other men, and
therefore that a system based upon reason and kindness, tending to impure feelings of saff-respect, hopefulness and penifence, ought to be adopted in all our
prisons, so far as is practicable without impairing the
deterring character essential to any system of punishment.

ishment.

2. That the rations of the prisoners should invari-

ishment.

2. That the rations of the prisoners should invariably be such as are, in the opinion of the physician, entirely consistent with good health.

3. That a sufficiency of pure air at all times, and of artificial warmth in cold or damp weather, should be introduced into the cells and the workshops of the prisons; and that the means of lighting every cell, except those used for punishment, should be provided at each prison, so that no prisoner may be left in darkness or more than the maximum time required for sleep.

4. That the use of the yoke and shower bath should be discontinued, and separate confinement at hard labor, and other privations, substituted as means of punishment and discipline.

5. That all punishments for breaches of discipline in the prisons, should be inflicted under the direction and supervision of the Warden, and by some officer unconcerned in the offense.

6. That some systematic aid and encouragement should be afforded to discharged convicts by the State.

7. That a rigid and thorough examination of the

6. That some systematic aid and encouragement should be afforded to discharged convicts by the State.

7. That a rigid and thorough examination of the prisons should be made annually under the appointment and direction of the Legislature.

8. That the annual reports of the Inspectors should exhibit not only the cash receipts and expenditures of each prison but every debt incurred and credit allowed by the several agents.

9. That the government of the prisons should be entirely divested of the influence of party politics.

10. That the number of prisoners at Auburn and Sing Sing should be diminished, by increasing the number to be sent to the Clinton Prison.

11. That the length of sentences, especially for first offenses, should be dessened.

12. That the government and condition of our county juils and pesitentiaries should be thoroughly investigated and reformed.

Lieut. Gov. Church has so far recovered from his late indisposition as to be able to resume his seat in the chair of the Senate.